



TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2021

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FROM THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY DIRECTOR

by **Zhijia Shen**

Winter is a season of holidays. Among them, the Lunar New Year holds an important place, particularly for the many East Asian cultures that share its observance, and often view it as the most auspicious time of the year. The festival often extends from the first to the fifteenth day of the first month of the year. China and Korea calculate this “first month” according to the traditional lunisolar calendar, while Japan substituted the Gregorian solar calendar in 1873.

It has long been a tradition for our library to host an open house to celebrate, in a multicultural fashion, the Lunar New Year. At last year’s event, we announced a transformational gift from the Tateuchi Foundation and our renaming as the Tateuchi East Asia Library. This year’s celebration, held on February 12—Lunar New Year’s Day—marked the first anniversary of that historic milestone. Over seventy people gathered online to welcome the year of the Ox.



Tateuchi EAL
Director
Zhijia Shen



2021 Lunar New Year event flyer,
designed by student employee Lucy Li

One honored guest was Mr. Dan Asher, Administrator of the Tateuchi Foundation, who congratulated Tateuchi EAL on this special occasion and encouraged staff to continue their great work in moving the library forward. He also shared a “secret” of successfully running a foundation: fund people, not institutions. He remarked that “The Tateuchi Foundation has done an excellent job at identifying an exceptional group of people to fund to create the Tateuchi East Asia Library.” Dean of University Libraries Betsy Wilson also spoke, thanking Mrs. Tateuchi, the Tateuchi Foundation, and Mr. Asher for their unwavering support. She said, “You show us that you value our work, providing mission-critical investments that ensure our place as a global destination for research, teaching and learning in East Asia Studies.” Paul Constantine, Associate Dean for Distinctive Collections, welcomed our guests and praised Tateuchi EAL staff for their excellent work in the face of the pandemic.

Gathering via Zoom, rather than in the library, allowed us to invite friends and colleagues from around the country and across the Pacific. Eight past visiting librarians joined us from China, Japan, and Korea. Seven Tateuchi EAL retirees tuned in, one from Wisconsin. It was so special to “e-see” each other! As is usual for our New Year celebrations, staff and students showcased their artistic talents, including singing, a piano recital, and poetry recitation. One performed from California, another from China. Staff lightning talks highlighted Tateuchi EAL’s achievements over the past year. We even held a Tateuchi EAL trivia game. We immersed ourselves in joy and festivity. What a wonderful way to celebrate our first anniversary as the Tateuchi East Asia Library!

2020 was a year of challenges and hardships, but also of achievements and learning. In addition to the transformational gift from the Tateuchi Foundation, Tateuchi EAL established two other endowment funds, each from the largesse of a past or present staff member: the Wu Yeen-Mei Endowed Fund for Taiwan Studies at the Tateuchi East Asia Library and the H. B. Ryoo Libraries Endowed Fund for the Korean Collection. These dedicated Tateuchi EAL staff members have given decades of their professional lives, creativity, and passion to the library to build its excellent collections and services, leaving large footprints on the library’s history. Their generosity not only illustrates their dedication and devotion, but ensures a long-lasting impact on future users.

In recent months a few essential staff members have been able to work onsite for limited days and hours. We have focused on processing the large backlog of materials received during the Covid-19 disruption. With limited onsite student assistance, Tateuchi EAL staff have worked together to identify priorities and establish new workflows, to ensure the provision of quality service to users. One success among many has been the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop (see the [article below](#)). A recently added component of this has been the Tateuchi Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Coffee Hour, which provides an informal but structured forum for faculty, students, and librarians to share digital methodologies and their applications in participants’ own research and teaching. It has been popular among graduate students.

A silver lining of Covid-19 has been that it has made us more “21st Century.” Social distancing has forced us to adopt “e” (electronic) approaches to many things. E-books, e-classes, e-conferences, e-workshops, e-meetings, e-consultations, e-parties, and e-meals are all now a natural part of our life. Several articles in this issue by Tateuchi EAL staff and student employees describe how they have thrived in the e-world, accomplishing much via Zoom and other e-connections.



Lunar New Year couplet written by former Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou 馬英九 and presented to overseas Chinese communities

TEAL TOPICS

PASSION, DEDICATION, AND ACTION:
YEEN-MEI WU AND TATEUCHI EAL'S TAIWAN STUDIES COLLECTIONby **Zhijia Shen**

In June 2001, a group of donors from the Taiwanese community in Seattle worked in a very short time to establish and provide basic funding for the [Taiwan Collection Endowed Fund](#) at the UW Libraries' East Asia Library (today's Tateuchi East Asia Library). Ms. Yeen-Mei Wu, then Chinese Studies Librarian at the East Asia Library, was the driving force behind this effort. This was the first endowment in an American library dedicated to collecting materials from or about Taiwan. In the same year, Yeen-Mei retired after a forty-year career in East Asian librarianship, working as Chinese studies librarian at UC Berkeley (1962-67) and UW (1969-2001).

Almost two decades later, in 2020, Yeen-Mei created yet another endowment to support Taiwan studies collections and activities: the Wu Yeen-Mei Taiwan Studies Endowed Fund at the Tateuchi East Asia Library 吳燕美華大東亞圖書館台灣研究基金. This marks the

first time the UW has allowed vernacular script to feature in an endowment name.



Yeen-Mei Wu at the Taiwan Collection Endowed Fund reception, 2001

Yeen-Mei's dedication and deep passion for building a strong Taiwan studies collection at the UW Libraries stem from her own roots in, and love for, Taiwan. Yeen-Mei's father was a diplomat, beginning his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China in Nanjing in 1931. Born in Taiwan in 1935, Yeen-Mei grew up in an extremely turbulent period in the history of Taiwan and China. She

has five siblings: a sister and four brothers. As the family moved with her father's diplomatic postings, by the age of

eleven she had lived in many different countries. In her interview for Tateuchi EAL's oral history project, Yeen-Mei commented that for Taiwanese during those times, life was full of bitterness and hardship. In 1946, following World War II, her family moved back to Taiwan, where her father settled as a businessman.



Yeen-Mei Wu (first left) at the Taiwan Collection Endowed Fund reception, East Asia Library Reading Room, 2001

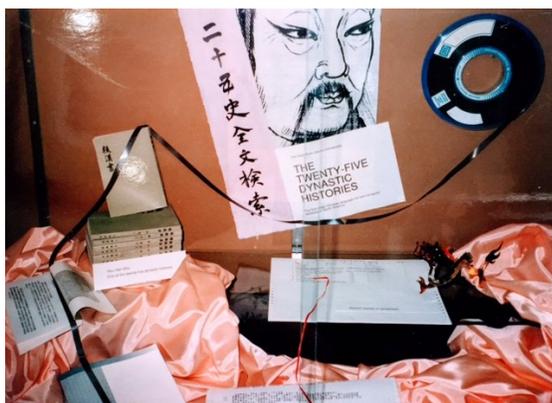


Yeen-Mei Wu (front row, first right) and her family, 1941

Yeen-Mei came to the US in 1959 to study business at the University of Michigan. She was part of the second wave of Chinese immigrants to the country, many of whom were from Taiwan. On her way to Ann Arbor, she stopped by San Francisco, and ended up staying. With the help of friends, Yeen-Mei enrolled in the School of Information at San Jose State College and worked at Stanford University Library in the summer. The next year, she enrolled in the School of Librarianship at UC Berkeley.

While studying for her Master of Library Science degree, Yeen-Mei worked part-time jobs in three libraries at UCB. One of these, the Center for Chinese Studies Library (CCS), offered her a librarian's position before she even graduated. It was thus at CCS that Yeen-Mei began her career as a professional librarian in 1962. In 1967, Yeen-Mei moved with her husband and two young children to Seattle, where he worked for Boeing and Yeen-Mei was hired in 1969 as the Chinese Studies Librarian at UW's Far Eastern Library, as it was then named. Yeen-Mei has lived in Seattle ever since, 54 years and counting. During this time, she has dedicated her professional life to developing an excellent Chinese studies collection, while building a Taiwan studies collection from scratch.

During her tenure at UW's East Asia Library (EALUW), from October 1969 to August 2001, Yeen-Mei made many important contributions. In the 1980s, most East Asian libraries in the United States moved their catalogs online. EALUW played a leading role in such moves towards library automation. For example, it collaborated with Academia Sinica's Computation Center in developing the Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories database, providing full-text searchable versions of key



East Asia Library exhibition on the Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories database project, 1989

traditional Chinese histories. After the departure of EALUW director Karl Lo, Yeen-Mei took over and completed this important project, which had a significant impact on libraries and users worldwide.

As Chinese Studies Librarian, Yeen-Mei was responsible for collection development, user consultation, and reference. Following the normalization of diplomatic relations between the US and the People's Republic of China in 1979, EALUW expanded its book acquisition network from Taiwan and Hong Kong to include mainland China. In 1989 Yeen-Mei visited Beijing for the first time, to present a paper at an international conference—held at Beijing Library, which later became the National Library of China—on Chinese library collections. That was only two months after the Tiananmen Incident.



Speaking at an international conference on Chinese collections, Beijing Library, August 1989

At the beginning of 1987, Yeen-Mei spent three months as an exchange librarian at the National Central Library in Taiwan. Her hard work helped develop a collaborative relationship between UW Libraries and NCL. In the 1990s, when EALUW launched a rapid development of electronic resources, Yeen-Mei enthusiastically expanded her involvement in professional organizations and was elected chair of the Committee on Chinese Materials (1996-1999) of the Council on East Asia Libraries.

Yeen-Mei actively involved herself in local Taiwanese communities. In 1970, she was part of a group that founded the Taiwanese Association of Greater Seattle. In 1985 and 1986, she was elected chair of the Association. She brought in speakers for talks in local communities and on the UW campus, and introduced

Taiwanese culture. One outstanding example was a joint exhibition of arts and crafts in June 1986. Yeen-Mei's election as Chair of the Taiwanese Association led to her blacklisting by the Kuomintang (KMT) government in Taiwan, but that did not stop her. She joined the Greater Seattle Taiwanese Women's Club when it was first formed in 1987 and served as its Chair from 2006 to 2008. She wrote a history of the club, compiled a video of its past activities, and was an active writer for its publication *Funü yuandi* 婦女園地 (*Women's Corner*). In 1994, Yeen-Mei served as Head of the Taiwan Chorus. She led and performed at a series of successful events that brought significant visibility, including a Centennial of Washington State concert at the Seattle Center, the Festival of Music at Bellevue Square, and a performance in Portland. She was elected chair of the Taiwanese Culture Promotion Society (1985-90) in 1989. During her tenure, the organization hosted many lectures, including five on Taiwan studies.



Yeen-Mei Wu at the Taiwanese Association of Greater Seattle arts exhibition, 1986

Yeen-Mei is an excellent archivist, and carefully documents significant events. Items from her collections relating to Taiwanese organizations in Seattle were included in the digital project *Historical Sources on the Taiwan Democratic Movement Overseas* at Taiwan's National Chengchi University (2013-14).

Recently she has been working hard to organize materials relating to the Taiwanese Association of Greater Seattle, which she plans to donate to Tateuchi EAL to establish an archive of local Chinese/Taiwanese-American history. She is also busy scanning her photo albums and adding captions.

Since I became Director of Tateuchi EAL in 2006, Yeen-Mei has been a strong supporter of my work. She introduced me to local Taiwanese communities and community leaders, and provided helpful advice to me in our community outreach programs. She generously shares information and documentation regarding our library. She has been actively involved in our library's Oral History Project and served on its advisory committee. She herself has interviewed several community members, and donated time and money to the project.

Yeen-Mei has dedicated her new endowment fund to the collection of primary sources and scholarship relating to local Taiwanese history, focusing on Taiwan studies at the grassroots level. She especially encourages us to collect archival and other primary sources from the county level and below. She also promotes the collection of resources relating to Taiwanese communities in America, particularly in the greater Seattle area. As Bill Lively, Chair of UW's Taiwan Studies Program, has commented, "Building the TEAL collection of Taiwan local materials is a great project that will complement our program and help to build it into a research organization."

Tateuchi EAL is blessed to have such wonderful retirees and friends as Yeen-Mei, who has dedicated her life-long work, love and professionalism to our library and its users through her exemplary actions.



Yeen-Mei Wu (fourth right) at a Library Staff Association Christmas party, 1980

LEARNING TO READ IN REPUBLICAN CHINA: ILLUSTRATED CHARACTER CARDS

by **Shuqi Ye**

I have recently had the chance to work as an intern with Chinese Cataloging and Metadata Librarian Jian Ping Lee on a project to back-catalog a collection of early- to mid-twentieth century Chinese books, among which I have found many interesting titles. One day I encountered a delicate box of color-illustrated Chinese character cards. Its attractiveness prompted me to explore further, and to share some of my discoveries.

1. ITEM DESCRIPTION

This item consists of a rigid box (16 x 11 cm) containing 1,000 square character cards (approximately 5 x 5 cm). The box lid displays the title, [Huitu wucai xinfangzi 繪圖五彩新方字 \[New Illustrated Character Cards in Five Colors\]](#), and publisher, Shanghai Guangyi shuju 上海廣益書局. Each card has a number in one corner, indicating to which of twenty thematically defined “packs” 包 it belongs. The choice of corner indicates the character’s tone, as discussed below. Cards are printed in one of five colors—red, green, blue, brown, or black—hence the title.



Image on the *Huitu wucai xinfangzi* box lid



The 20 packs of character cards

Illustrations accompany characters that refer to readily visualized objects, actions, or concepts. Most show elements of Chinese life, but some bear the influence of Western learning or material culture. The latter include body parts and a skeleton in Western anatomical style, and objects such as a baby stroller, a glass tumbler, and a pocket watch.



Some illustrations feature Western imagery

The character cards give word definitions in unpunctuated literary Chinese, not the vernacular Chinese championed by some in the late 1910s and 1920s. Most cards do not indicate pronunciation, aside from tone: students would rely on instructors to teach this. For heteronymic characters, alternate pronunciations (but not the main pronunciation) and concise definitions appear after the main definition. Homophonic characters are used to convey these pronunciations, a common practice in premodern Chinese philology.

Tateuchi EAL's character card set does not include explanatory notes. However, I discovered teaching booklets for two similar sets on the rare book website kongfuzi.com ([here](#) and [here](#)). According to these, *Huitu wucai xinfangzi* is designed as an aid for elementary school teachers to teach Chinese characters to children aged between five and eight. A set contains 1,000 characters, divided among twenty packs, each with 50 cards (in TEAL's set, some have 49 or 51). The packs are grouped into ten thematic pairs, ordered by difficulty. Individual packs also contain characters of varying difficulty, with teachers given discretion to select those of an appropriate level. A character can be shown to children separately or alongside its antonym, for easier memorization. Most represent simple words with a single meaning, and are accompanied by illustrations where feasible. The choice of corner for displaying the pack number indicates the character's tone. Whether to teach the four tones to a student depends on their ability. The set also includes fifty pieces of blank white paper, on which the teacher can record each child's name, address, and characters they should learn. The booklets note the planned publication of a second set with 1,000 characters of greater difficulty.

TEAL's item generally matches the teaching booklets' description of the first of the two sets, except for its lack of items such as the booklet itself and additional white paper, and a few inconsistencies perhaps caused by errors in the notes or revisions to later editions of the set. For example, the booklets note that on cards for even-tone characters, the pack number should appear in the bottom left corner. However, in our set even-tone character cards often display the number in the upper left.

Based on our set, I roughly summarize the pack themes and the relationship between character tone and pack number position as follows. There remain exceptions to these patterns.

Pack themes: 1-2: abstract words; 3-4: time/calendar and astronomical phenomenon; 5-6: architecture and construction; 7-8: social relations and occupations; 9-10: the human body; 11-12: common verbs; 13-14: plants; 15-16: animals; 17-18: objects and activities from daily life; 19-20: production tools and activities.

Tones and pack number positions: even tone 平: upper left; rising tone 上: bottom left; departing tone 去: bottom right; entering tone 入: upper right.



Even-tone characters from Pack 2



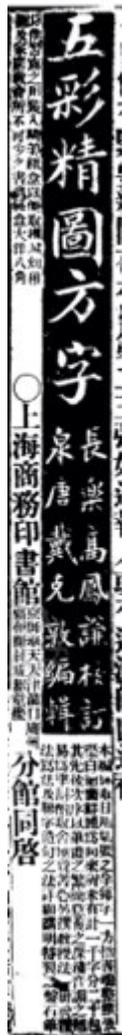
Entering-tone characters from Pack 4

2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Teaching children to read through illustrated character cards, especially multi-colored ones, was new to China in the early twentieth century. Traditional education, whose main goal was preparing students for civil service examinations, had emphasized reading, recitation, and writing, but rarely pictures. This reflected the outlook of instructors, who were not professional teachers but entry-level exam graduates who had failed to progress further. Multi-color print editions had been accessible mainly to families of high status or wealth, due to the high cost and complexity of traditional Chinese woodblock printing.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, institutional and technological changes transformed teaching methods and materials. The official examination system declined in status, before being

abolished in 1905. Western pedagogical methods such as the Herbartian five steps gained favor, and teaching became a recognized profession. Publishers kept pace with new educational materials, aided by Western technologies such as chromolithography, which greatly reduced the cost of color printing. The Commercial Press 商務印書館 published the first character-learning teaching aid *Wucai jingtu fangzi* 五彩精圖方字 [Illustrated Character Cards in Five Colors] in 1906, advertising its new offering in newspapers. Other publishers followed suit with their own educational aids and textbooks. Shanghai Guangyi shuju, publisher of our library's *Huitu wucai xinfangzi*, became one of the largest publishers of such materials in the decades after its founding in 1900.



Advertisement for *Wucai jingtu fangzi* in *Xinwen bao* 新聞報, Jan. 12, 1907



Advertisement for *Huitu wucai xinfangzi* in *Shi bao* 時報 (Eastern Times), Aug. 15, 1917

3. POINTS OF INTEREST

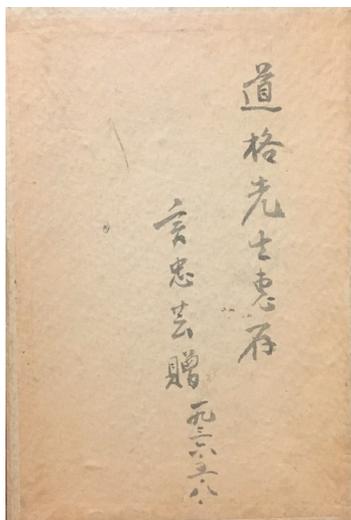
3.1 Cover Image Design

The box lid features a painting of a girl in the calendar picture 月份牌 style. Combining the techniques of traditional Chinese *gongbi* 工筆 painting and Western watercolor painting, this was Shanghai's most popular commercial art style in the first half of the 20th century, especially for company advertisements.

To the bottom right of the girl is the artist's signature, Yuqing 育青. We do know of one calendar picture painter Zhang Yuqing 章育青 who signed his works Yuqing. Zhang was reputedly born in 1909 and studied painting at the Shanghai publisher Shijie shuju 世界書局 in 1925; his work included book design and illustration. Guangyi shuju, the publisher of *Huitu wucai xinfangzi*, entered into partnership with Shijie shuju in 1925. It is possible that Zhang Yuqing designed this cover while an apprentice at Shijie shuju. His surviving paintings, mostly produced after 1949, are quite different in theme. We cannot be sure whether Zhang Yuqing was the painter of our box's image.

3.2 Publication Date

There are several editions of this title. TEAL's set does not display a date, and its accompanying teaching booklet has been lost, hence we cannot precisely determine its edition or year of publication. The underside of the box bears a gift dedication dated 1936. One of the teaching booklets mentioned above reproduces a publishing certification issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of China in 1915. Our set must therefore have been published between 1915 and 1936. In addition, the box may feature the artwork of Zhang Yuqing, who in 1925 studied painting at a partner publisher to Guangyi shuju, the publisher of *Huitu wucai xinfangzi* (see above). We also know that in the 1930s, Guangyi shuju turned mainly to popular novels. While not definitive, these details increase the probability of a publication date between 1925 and around 1930.



Dedication on the underside of the box:
道格先生惠存 言忠芸
贈 一九三六·五·八
(To Mr. Daoge [Doug/Douglas?], from Yan Zhongyun.
May 8, 1936.)

3.3 Tone System

Until the 1910s, authoritative scholarly pronunciations of characters followed the Middle Chinese (MC) tone system first set out by Lu Fayan 陸法言 in his 601 CE rime dictionary *Qieyun* 切韻. Lu's work is no longer extant, but as developed in later rime dictionaries, the system identifies four basic tones, each with *yin* 陰 and *yang* 陽 variants. The schema was viewed as generally applicable to different dialects. The founding of the Republic of China in 1912 invigorated debate regarding which dialect(s) should form the basis of a

national language. An influential early model merged different dialectics, but from the 1920s official policy favored the Beijing dialect. This standard northern Chinese, informally referred to in English as Mandarin, also has four tones, but these differ from the MC system in that they lack an entering tone 入聲 (use of this was lost in most Northern dialects), and in that they count *yin* and *yang* variants of MC's level tone 平聲 as two separate tones (Mandarin's two other tones have MC equivalents, but lack *yin* and *yang* variants).

It is interesting that *Huitu wucai xinfangzi*, published between 1915 and 1936, adopts the traditional MC tone system, with an entering tone and only one level tone, rather than that of the Beijing-centric national language. As noted above, for most characters tones are the only phonetic information the cards provide. These choices enable instruction in multiple dialects. While the card set reflects modernizing changes to the education system, it also retains traditional elements; another is the use of unpunctuated literary Chinese for definitions. It is possible that later editions simply reproduced a design conceived in 1915, predating the large-scale promotion of Beijing-based pronunciation and punctuated vernacular writing.

ENGAGING WITH KOREAN BOOKS THROUGH BOOKSORI

by **Seyoung Nam**

In early October 2020, as an incoming UW graduate student, I attended all kinds of information sessions to better understand my new living environment and the facilities available to students. I was particularly impressed by the UW Libraries, which not only provided online Korean books, but hosted great events like Booksori, in which a reader shares their thoughts on a Korean book with the Korean Studies Librarian, Hyokyung Yi. A glance at the list of previous guests, mostly professors, professional writers, or literature majors, quelled any thought of participating myself. The bar seemed too high.

In mid-November, halfway through my first quarter, I heard through the Korean Graduate Student

Association that Booksori was seeking a student guest for the next session. Putting aside self-doubt, I emailed Hyokyung. To my delight, she invited me to take part.

The book Hyokyung asked me to discuss was [Kongbu ran muöt in'ga](#) 공부란 무엇인가 (*What is Study?*), written by a Seoul National University professor named Youngmin Kim 김영민, and published in Seoul in 2020. The title sounded a little dull, so I was not optimistic. Neither did I relish the prospect of more professorial lecturing. But I remained curious, hoping at least to find some tips on how to succeed as an international graduate student in the US. After all, Kim had earned his PhD

(at Harvard) and taught for a period in the US. A scholar of Chinese and Korean intellectual history, he now teaches in SNU's Department of Political Science and International Relations.

It didn't take long for me to realize my preconceptions about the book had been wrong. Yes, it is all about study, and is a bit too academic and philosophical. But Kim conveys his ideas with engaging metaphors and humorous stories, making the book far from boring. His perspectives on key issues confronting Korean society are accessibly presented and, more importantly, rooted in logical analysis.

Kim argues that the purpose of study is not to view the world through a simplifying lens, but to embrace its complexities and try to understand these without conflict. He emphasizes "the power of thinking," and claims Korean students need more of it. I agree with his argument. The Korean education system places importance on understanding proven solutions to a given problem and applying those to similar circumstances. Students are not given time to contemplate why particular solutions are best; they are forced to simply memorize them for exams. I believe the current education system is well suited to producing talent for a society trying to catch up with advanced countries. But as Korea matures in its economic development, it's time to seek out an education system that encourages students to fully understand basic principles and deduce new ideas through logical thinking.

Interacting with *What is Study* through a Booksori session with Hyokyoung was certainly more meaningful than just reading it. When reading I often highlight sentences that I like or find meaningful, and jot down impressions afterwards. Such habits are useful for revision, but not for fully appreciating a work and making it "mine." Preparing for Booksori and exchanging opinions with Hyokyoung helped me

absorb more deeply the book's ideas, decide where I stood on its arguments, and organize it within my mind. In autumn 2020 I took a course called Policy and Ethics in Information Management. In the first week, we learned about the elements of an argument. Afterwards I revisited *What is Study?*, and found a new appreciation of the writer's arguments. I realized that what Kim termed "the power of thinking" was essentially deductive reasoning. Without Booksori, I would never have grasped the writer's true message.

Participating in Booksori inspired me in two ways. First, it led me to deeply engage with a thought-provoking book I might not otherwise have read, let alone appreciated. I hope other students interested in exploring

Korean books will take the opportunity to participate. Second, reading an e-book version of Kim's work, accessed from the platform of Kyobo (Korea's best-known bookstore), drove home to me what a tremendous effort the UW makes to offer diverse resources for students, including digital materials in foreign languages. What a rich experience!



공부란 무엇인가

김영민

"이 수업은 여러분들의 지적 변화를 목표로 합니다"
서울대 김영민 교수의 공부에 관한 리드미컬한 조언들

어크로스

Cover of *Kongbu ran muöt in'ga*
(What is Study?),
by Youngmin Kim

WORKING AT TATEUCHI EAL IN 2020: A STUDENT EMPLOYEE'S PERSPECTIVE

by **Chun Li**

Working at the Tateuchi East Asia Library as a student cataloging specialist is one of my proudest achievements at UW. I still remember how excited I felt when I was officially hired in January 2020. As one of the very few international students in my Master of Library and Information Science program, I was eager to find out more about the American library system. My

work as a library assistant has complemented my coursework and allowed me to put into practice theoretical knowledge in areas such as metadata and information organization. My Tateuchi EAL job has empowered me to move from surviving to thriving, and helped clarify my goal of becoming a librarian.

My first assignment has been to work on the project “Discover Republican China—Cataloging Hidden Treasures of 20th Century Chinese Publications,” which will make previously uncataloged Chinese materials fully accessible through UW Libraries Search (see [article below](#)). My tasks have included searching thousands of titles and doing copy cataloging. Many items are dusty

and fragile, and their very presence in the UW collection seems quite miraculous, considering they have travelled to America with generations of Chinese immigrants and in some cases withstood war and turmoil.

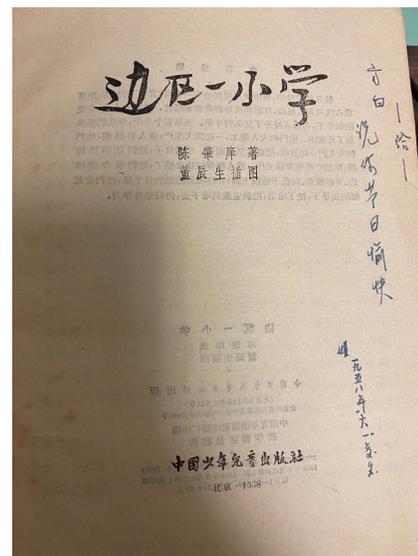
The backlog collection covers diverse subjects, from an early twentieth century train timetable, to an old Shanghainese fashion magazine, to an elementary school textbook. Perusing them provides a glimpse into history and its individual actors. Most books I processed have outlived their publishers and are rare or unique in US collections.

I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to catalog and reorganize these decades-old hidden treasures from my homeland, and honored to help realize their historical value by making them discoverable to scholars worldwide. Not only has the project offered me professional experience in a research library, it has given me a new understanding of my culture.

2020 was anything but normal, creating all kinds of difficulties for an academic library like ours. But we have met the challenge together. After working remotely for months, I can now do some work onsite, and have begun processing the new books that have piled up during the pandemic. Though we don't know when things will return to normal, I am looking forward to working again with my amazing colleagues.



Selected titles from the backlog collection



Personal dedication on the title page of a children's novel: 给白 祝你节日快乐 姐 一九五八年六一前夕 [To Fang Bai, wishing you a happy holiday. Big Sister, June 1, 1958.]

COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS IN 2020

CHINA STUDIES: NEW DATABASES

by **Zhijia Shen**

In 2019-2020 we acquired subscriptions to a number of new databases. These and other electronic resources proved invaluable after March 2020, when the physical closure of the library due to Covid-19 made our print resources inaccessible to users for several months.

[Dacheng Minguo tushu quanwen shujuku 大成民国图书全文数据库 \(Dacheng Republican Period Books\)](#)

This database includes over 40,000 titles and over 50,000 volumes of electronic books published during the Chinese Republican era (1912-1949). It covers 22 subject categories including philosophy, economics, politics, military affairs, arts, sciences, history, geography, industry, agriculture, transportation, astronomy, and medicine.

[EPS shuju pingtai EPS 数据平台 \(EPS China Data\)](#)

Also known as *Wanfang tongji shuju* 万方统计数据, *EPS China Data* presents a collection of statistical and census data from China. It provides access to 71 statistical databases sourced from local, regional and national government and industry organizations, covering a wide range of fields including social development, resources, environment, economy, finance, trade, and industry.

[Zhongguo dangdai zhengzhi yundong shi shujuku \(wangluo ban\) 中国当代政治运动史数据库\(网络版\) \(Database on the History of Contemporary Chinese Political Movements, 1949 \[online version\]\)](#)

This series includes four databases of primary sources and archival materials representing the history of PRC political movements since 1949.

- *Zhongguo Wenhua Dageming wenku* 中国文化大革命文库 (*Chinese Cultural Revolution Database*)

Contains original documents related to the Chinese

Cultural Revolution, including CCP notices, instructions, proclamations, speeches and major media commentaries with detailed citations; comprises first hand sources.

- *Zhongguo Dayuejin—Dajihuang shujuku* 中国大跃进--大饥荒数据库, 1958-1962 (*Chinese Great Leap Forward and Great Famine Database, 1958-1962*)

Contains more than 7,000 documents, including CCP directives, bulletins, internal reports, officials' speeches, major media commentaries with detailed citations, and contextual materials.

- *Zhongguo Fanyou yundong shujuku* 中国反右运动数据库, 1957- (*The Chinese Anti-Rightist Campaign Database, 1957-*)

Contains primary sources pertaining to the Anti-Rightist Campaign, including government documents, directives, bulletins, speeches by Mao Zedong and other officials, major newspaper and magazine editorials, published "Rightist" views and their denunciations, and original archives.

- *Zhongguo wushi niandai chuzhongqi de zhengzhi yundong shujuku: cong tudi gaige dao gongsi heyingshi* 中国五十年代初中期的政治运动数据库: 从土地改革到公私合营, 1949-1956 (*Database of the Chinese Political Campaigns in the 1950s: From Land Reform to State-Private Partnership, 1949-1956*)

Contains more than 9,000 documents relating to the Chinese political campaigns of the 1950s, including CCP directives, bulletins, internal reports, officials' speeches, and major media commentaries with detailed citations.

JAPAN STUDIES: A POETIC CARD GAME

by **Azusa Tanaka**

One of our recent special acquisitions from Japan is a complete color woodblock-printed set of *Hyakunin isschu karuta* 百人一首かるた [*Hyakunin isschu Cards*], dating from between the late eighteenth century and the mid-nineteenth century. *Hyakunin isschu* [*One Hundred Poets, One Poem Each*] is a collection of 100 waka (31-syllable poems) attributed to 100 poets, ranging chronologically from Emperor Tenji 天智 (626–672; r. 661–672) to Retired Emperor Juntoku 順徳 (1197–1242; r. 1210–1221). It is believed that Fujiwara no Teika 藤原定家 (1162–1241) compiled the anthology.

In the late seventeenth century the anthology became the basis of a popular card game, reflecting the popularization and greater affordability of woodblock printing, and the introduction of card games by the Portuguese (*karuta* is a loan word from the Portuguese

carta, or card). *Hyakunin isschu karuta* uses two packs of 100 cards. Cards in the first pack show the entire text of each poem in *Hyakunin isschu*, while those in the second pack show only the poem's latter half. The reader takes a card from the first pack, but reads aloud only the first half of the poem. The players then look for the card from the second pack that completes the poem. Obviously this requires familiarity with the anthology's poems. The game remains popular in Japanese homes and schools today.

Waka poems are one specialty of Dr. Paul Atkins, Professor of Japanese Literature in UW's Department of Asian Languages and Literature. He gave a lecture "Hyakunin isschu and the world of Japanese medieval poetry" on March 3, 2021. The newly acquired *Hyakunin isschu karuta* set was introduced at the event. For more information, please visit the [Washin Kai Events page](#).



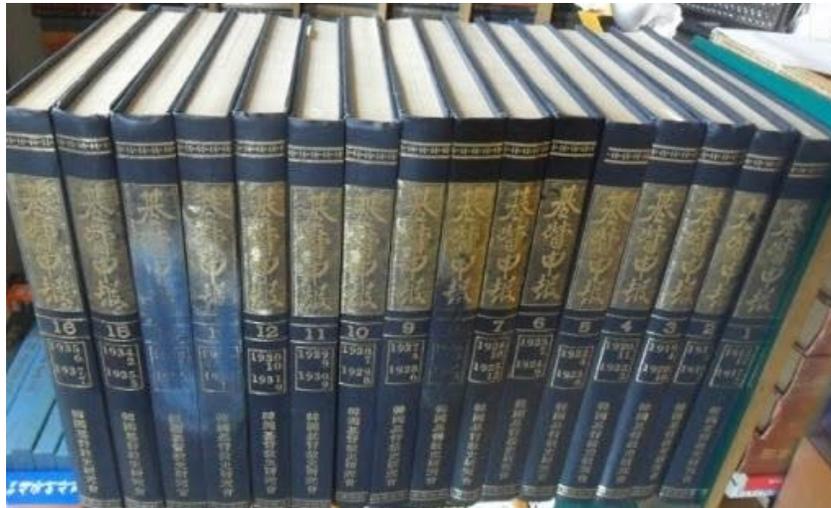
Hyakunin isschu karuta 百人一首かるた [*Hyakunin isschu Cards*]

KOREAN STUDIES: 20TH CENTURY CHRISTIAN PERIODICALS

by **Hyokyong Yi**

To meet the research needs of Korean history faculty, Tateuchi EAL has purchased reprints of two Christian publications from the first half of the twentieth century, the newspaper *Kidok sinbo* and the monthly magazine *Söngsö Chosön*. The 16 volumes of [Kidok sinbo](#) 基督申報/기독신보 (*The Christian Messenger*) include coverage from the first issue in 1915 to the last issue in 1937. It is regarded as one of the first Christian

“trans-denominational” newspapers in Korea, and enjoyed the longest run among such publications. [Söngsö Chosön](#) 聖書朝鮮/성서조선 (*Bible Chosön*) was edited and published by Kim Kyo-sin, a renowned religious scholar and theologian of the Nonchurch movement in Korea. Coverage extends from the magazine’s founding in 1927 to its final issue in 1942.



Kidok sinbo 基督申報/기독신보 (*The Christian Messenger*)
(Image: Sanghyön Sörim)



Söngsö Chosön 聖書朝鮮/성서조선 (*Bible Chosön*)
(Image: Chusik Hoesa Hongsöngsa)

ONSITE CIRCULATION WORK IN A CLOSED LIBRARY

by Yan Zhu

Our library is still closed to the public, but since autumn 2020 we have been providing a book request and pick-up service. Following the departure of former Circulations and Marking Supervisor Le Button in October, I have been representing Tateuchi EAL's Circulation department onsite once a week to support book requests and other services.

Usually the Central Circulation staff, based in Suzzallo, does paging (retrieving requested items) twice a week, including for Tateuchi EAL collections. They leave me a list of TEAL books they have been unable to locate. I search up to six locations at both our Gowen Hall library site and Kane Hall storage facility, sending them to Central Circulation if I can find them.

Each week we receive two to five boxes of returned items, which I scan and reshelve. Some return items that are available in the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service incorrectly display the message "Reshelve to Suzzallo" when I scan them in: I need to put these on our temporary shelf to avoid confusion.

Our General Stacks shelves are filling up, making reshelving more difficult and time consuming. To assess the situation I did a shelf crowding survey in Gowen Hall, revealing which subject areas have reached maximum capacity. We plan to do a similar survey in our Kane Hall storage facility.

New books urgently required by faculty or students are given rush marking (marking refers to the application of call numbers, library stamps, electronic sensors, etc. to new physical items). We handle between ten and forty such items every week. We also scan sections of Special Collections materials for faculty facing urgent publication deadlines. We work with purchasing selectors and Technical Services staff to process book replacement requests. We also check on recurrent water leaks in Kane Hall (books are

positioned to avoid damage), and fix minor computer problems wherever they occur.

Many unexpected difficulties have arisen as we've tried to provide books to users from closed physical libraries, partly because most of our own support staff cannot be onsite. We wouldn't have been able to achieve what we have without the help of Suzzallo's Central Circulation and TEAL's Technical Services team, and the extra efforts made by all our staff. It brings us great joy to see faculty and students accessing the materials they so urgently need.



New books awaiting rush marking

AN UPDATE ON THE PROJECT “DISCOVER REPUBLICAN CHINA—CATALOGING HIDDEN TREASURES OF 20TH CENTURY CHINESE PUBLICATIONS”

by **Jian Ping Lee**

As we announced in our 2020 Winter-Spring Newsletter, Tateuchi EAL received a grant from UW Libraries’ Allen Signature Award to clear our historical backlog of Chinese materials. The backlog consists of approximately 5,000 twentieth-century publications, over half of which were published in the Republican era (1912-1949). To tackle this backlog, we decided to outsource original and enhanced cataloging work, while doing copy cataloging (adapting existing records found elsewhere) in-house. Despite early setbacks due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our cataloging team has made substantial progress since commencing the project in January 2020.

Our workflow is as follows. We begin by weeding out backlog titles duplicated in TEAL’s main cataloged collection. For the remaining uncataloged items, we check in Connexion, a collaborative cataloging tool, for matching bibliographic records. If none exists, or the record is incomplete, we photograph sections of the book (e.g., title page, colophon, and description) and note details not observable from photographs, such as physical dimensions and pagination. Finally, we send the photographs and descriptive information to the outsourcing vendor.

Our original plan was to train students to do preparatory work for outsourcing and perform copy cataloging for titles that have a matching full-level bibliographic record in Connexion. Two students had been brought on board by January 2020. However, they had not been fully trained when, in early March, the library had to close due to Covid-19. With the collection inaccessible, the project was temporarily put on hold.

The project resumed in May, when we were able to return to the building twice a month to pick up materials. Unfortunately, one of the students graduated around that time, and the other could work only remotely. Therefore, I had to step in to complete most of the outsourcing preparation before the latter student was available to work onsite. In July we were able to start sending records to the vendor. More frequent onsite work and new hires later helped us pick up the pace. In early October 2020 it became possible to work onsite twice a week. That same month we hired an intern, followed by a student in January 2021. Four of us are now busy on the project.

The project got off to a slow start, but we have now sent over a thousand titles to the vendor. We hope our work will continue to gather pace, and that by the end of 2021 full bibliographic records will be available for the entirety of this invaluable historical collection.



Processed items temporarily housed in the Tateuchi EAL Seminar Room



Items awaiting processing in our Smith Hall storage facility

KOREA FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR KOREAN COLLECTIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

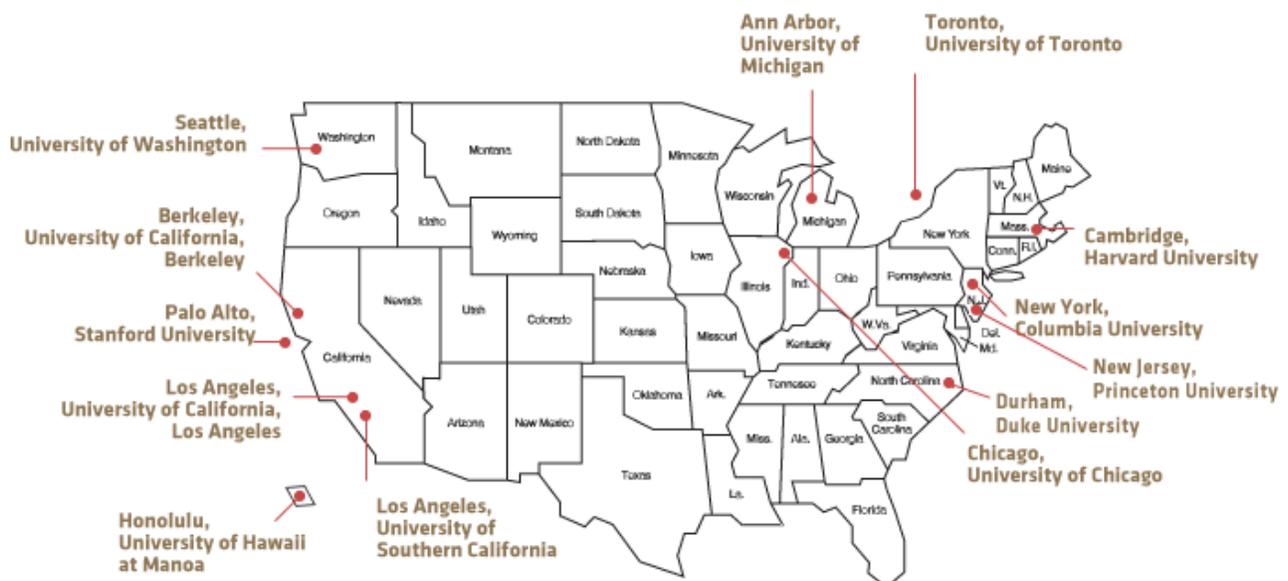
by **Hyokyoung Yi**

We cannot emphasize enough how grateful we are to our dedicated longtime sponsor, the Korea Foundation. Every year since 1994, the Korea Foundation has granted a sizable collection grant to the Tateuchi East Asia Library and other members of the Korea Collections Consortium of North America (KCCNA). This year the University and the Foundation have signed a sixth agreement, which will provide a sum of \$45,000 over the next three years for the acquisition of Korean language resources.

UW was one of six founding member institutions of the KCCNA, established nearly three decades ago. In fact it was at Suzzallo Library that Korean studies librarians met for the first time, in the summer of 1993, to plan its formation. The meeting was organized by Ms. Yoon Whan Choe, then Korean Studies Librarian, who was instrumental in planting the seed for a cooperative Korean collection development program among US institutions. The KCCNA has gradually expanded its membership to fourteen institutions (thirteen under current contract) in North America.

Over those years, the Korea Foundation has awarded over half a million dollars to UW, enabling the purchase of 16,000 volumes, comprising over 10% of our Korean holdings. The grant is typically for the purchase of Korean books and serials in print format, so that items can be shared among libraries through inter-library loan—often not permitted for electronic resources. To meet the urgent needs of remote users during the Covid-19 pandemic, this year's agreement allows us to acquire e-books and other electronic resources.

KCCNA's primary mission has been to support Korean studies teaching and research programs in North America by cooperatively building and providing broad access to the most comprehensive pool of Korean collections outside Korea. The Korea Foundation has been, and continues to be, instrumental in helping us pursue these goals. We gratefully express our appreciation to the Korea Foundation, our long-time friend and sponsor.



Location map of thirteen KCCNA member libraries in North America
(Image: KCCNA)

OUTREACH

TATEUCHI RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOPS

by **Ian Chapman**

Over the winter quarter, Tateuchi EAL has maintained its diverse online scholarly and instructional programming through the various strands of the [Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series](#). The theme for this quarter's Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies component has been geospatial analysis.

In January, Professor Bo Zhao from UW's Department of Geography presented a fascinating research talk "Shanzhai, Deep Fake and Place Spoofing: A Geospatial Analysis of Xenophilic Copycat Communities in China," discussing the recent development of urban Chinese "copycat" communities, notable for their conscious stylistic replication of alien places. Professor Zhao also generously serves as a consultant for the series.



Professor
Bo Zhao

In February, UW Libraries Geospatial Data and Maps Librarian Matt Parsons and GIS Staff Assistant Ashlee Abrantes offered a two-part workshop on ArcGIS StoryMaps, which allows researchers, educators, and students to engagingly integrate images, video, maps, text and animations in a geospatially referenced multimedia format.

January's meeting of the Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Community Coffee Hour featured a range of rich presentations: Deepa Banerjee (South Asia Studies Librarian), "Digital Scholarship

Management—South Asian Oral History Project and its Outcome"; Hayley Park (Master of Library and Information Science Student): "Textual Analysis Using the Archival Collections of Asian/Asian American/Immigrant Experiences"; and Julie Emory (Japan Studies MA Student): "Citation with Zotero."

Azusa Tanaka, Hyokyong Yi, and Ian Chapman led Research Methods workshops for Japan, Korea, and China/Taiwan respectively, introducing resources specific to each of those regions.

Spring quarter's Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies theme will be Creative Geovisualization. Professor Jin-Kyu Jung will present both a scholarly talk and a hands-on workshop relating to this topic: see the [series website](#) for details.

CHINESE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT UPDATE

by **Jian Ping Lee**

With the help of Anne Graham from UW's Information Technology Services, 48 interviews from Tateuchi EAL's Chinese oral history project, [History through Memories and Stories: Exploring Seattle's Chinese Immigrant Experiences](#), have recently been added to the UW Libraries Digital Collections. The interviews were conducted mostly in Chinese, with a small number in English. To view these interviews, [click here](#).



Yeen-Mei Wu interviewing Agnes Lee in 2018
for TEAL'S Chinese oral history project

TEAL PEOPLE

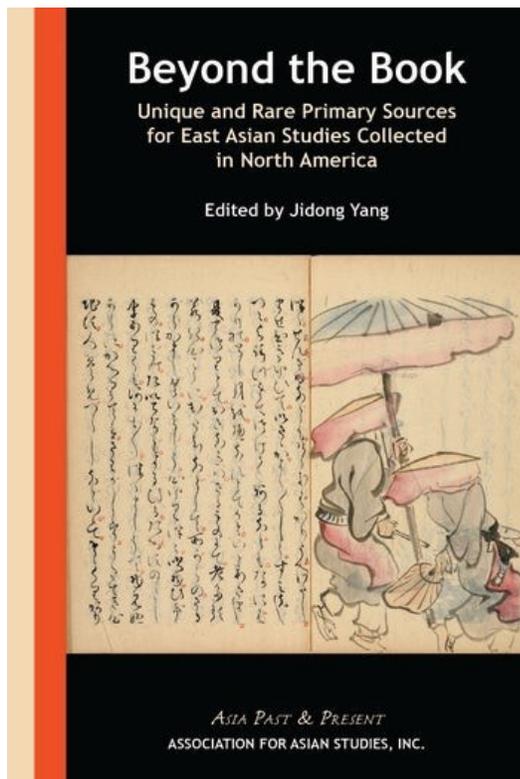
A BOOK CHAPTER ON OUR GAIHOZU COLLECTION

by **Azusa Tanaka**

Previous issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter have reported on the discovery and processing of UW Libraries' holdings of Gaihozu 外邦図 ("maps of outer lands"). Gaihozu are topographic maps of the former Japanese imperial territories, created from the 1880s, during the Meiji era, to the end of World War II in 1945. Commissioned by the Land Survey Department of the Imperial Japanese Army's General Staff Office, the maps were either drawn by Japanese surveying teams or reproduced from topographic maps created by other countries. For more information on UW's Gaihozu holdings, see our [collection guide](#).



Japanese Studies Librarian Azusa Tanaka working with UW Libraries' Gaihozu maps collection



Cover of *Beyond the Book: Unique and Rare Primary Sources for East Asian Studies Collected in North America* (image: Association for Asian Studies/ Columbia University Press)

A book chapter I co-authored on this subject, "Gaihozu, Maps of the Areas Outside the Japanese Territory Prepared by the Former Japanese Army, in the Libraries in the United States: Discovery and Processing," will appear in the monograph [Beyond the Book: Unique and Rare Primary Sources for East Asian Studies Collected in North America](#), to be published this April by the Association for Asian Studies (distributed by Columbia University Press). I feel privileged to have as my co-author Osaka University Professor Emeritus Shigeru Kobayashi, a leading expert on Gaihozu. Dr. Kobayashi has provided us with much helpful guidance in understanding and processing our Gaihozu collection since its discovery six years ago.

The chapter addresses subjects such as the definition of "Gaihozu," the discovery of UW's Gaihozu maps in the basement of Suzzallo Library, their provenance and characteristics, and how we are organizing and processing the maps.



Tateuchi East Asia Library Beckmann Reading Room (photograph by Taewoong Kang)

THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER AND BLOG WELCOME YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you use the Tateuchi East Asia Library? Have our materials or resources contributed to your research, study, or teaching? Have you visited our spaces or attended our events? If you have any library-related story to share, *we want to hear from you!*

For article and submission guidelines, see: www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news/newsletter-submissions.

We look forward to seeing your byline in an upcoming issue!

ABOUT THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

The Tateuchi East Asia Library Newsletter is produced by the library's librarians and staff. Inquiries concerning content and subscription requests may be directed to the editors, Ian Chapman (ichapman@uw.edu) and Jian Ping Lee (jlee37@uw.edu).

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Current and back issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter are available online at www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news



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